

CLAIMS

1. A method for treating depression in a subject, comprising administering a
5 therapeutically effective amount of a neurotoxin to a facial muscle to cause paralysis
of the facial muscle, thereby affecting the ability of the subject to frown and treating
depression in the subject.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the facial muscle is a orbicularis oculi
10 muscle, frontalis muscle or a procerus muscle.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the facial muscle is a corrugator
supercilii muscle.
- 15 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the neurotoxin is a Botulinum toxin.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the Botulinum toxin is Botulinum toxin
A.
- 20 6. The method of claim 2, wherein about 30-50 Unit equivalents of
Botulinum toxin type A is administered to the facial muscle.
7. The method of claim 6, further comprising administering an additional
25 dose of about 30-50 Unit equivalents of Botulinum toxin type A to the facial muscle
after about two to six months.
8. A method for treating depression in a subject, comprising administering a
therapeutically effective amount of a neurotoxin to a facial muscle to cause paralysis
of the facial muscle, thereby affecting the ability of the subject to scowl or appear
30 sad, and thereby treating depression in the subject.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the muscle is a depressor anguli oris muscle.
10. The method of claim 8, wherein the facial muscle is a frontalis muscle, 5 an orbicularis oculi muscle, or a procerus muscle.
11. The method of claim 8, wherein the facial muscle is a corrugator supercilii muscle.
- 10 12. The method of claim 8, wherein the neurotoxin is a Botulinum toxin.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the Botulinum toxin is Botulinum toxin A.
- 15 14. The method of claim 10, wherein about 30-50 Unit equivalents of Botulinum toxin type A is administered to the facial muscle.
16. The method of claim 14, further comprising administering an additional dose of about 30-50 Unit equivalents of Botulinum toxin type A to the facial muscle 20 after about two to six months.
- 25 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the modality of treatment comprises administration of an antidepressant, psychotherapy, or a physical treatment for depression.
- 30 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the additional modality of treatment for depression comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor.

19. The method of claim 8, further comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an additional modality of treatment for depression.

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20. The method of claim 16, wherein the modality of treatment comprises administration of an antidepressant, psychotherapy, or a physical treatment for depression.

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21. The method of claim 16, wherein the additional modality of treatment for depression comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor.